

REMARKS

Claims 5-9 and 11 have been allowed. Claims 13 and 14 have been amended. Thus, claims 5-9, 11, 13 and 14 are pending in the application. Claim 13 as amended recites --copper oxalate-- rather than “copper salt”, --according to-- rather than “of”, and --claims 5 to 9-- rather than “claims 5-9.” Claim 14 as amended recites --according to-- rather than “of.” Thus, no new matter has been added. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the present objections and rejections in view of the amendments and comments presented herein are respectfully requested.

Claim objections

Claims 13 and 14 were objected to based on two informalities. Both of these objections have been addressed in the amended claims, and now recite language suggested by the Examiner. Specifically, claim 13 recites --The method according to any one of claims 5 to 9--, and claim 14 recites --The method according to any one of claims 6, 8, or 9--. Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of the claim objections are respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 13 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

The Examiner contends that there is insufficient antecedent basis for recitation of “the copper salt” in lines 2-4 of claim 13. Claim 13 as amended recites --the copper oxalate-- rather than “the copper salt”, which clearly has antecedent basis in claims 5-9.

The Examiner also alleges that there is insufficient antecedent basis for recitation of “copper salt solution” in line 2 of claim 14. Claim 14 recites “...treating the reaction product obtained with an acid or an aqueous copper salt solution prior to washing the reaction product obtained with water.” Since the claim recites “an aqueous copper salt solution” (rather than “the aqueous copper salt solution”), it is apparent that the term “aqueous copper salt solution” is being introduced for the first time, and therefore does not need to have antecedent basis in any claim from which it depends. It should be noted that claim 14 also recites “treating the reaction product obtained with an acid...” which was (properly) not rejected as being indefinite since “acid” is

being introduced for the first time ("an acid"), and therefore does not need to have antecedent basis in any claim from which it depends. Thus, claim 14 is not indefinite.

In view of the claim amendment, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

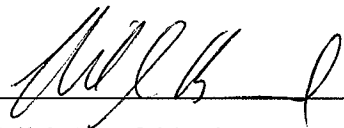
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and comments, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited. If any minor issues remain which could be resolved by telephone, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

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